THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHR1 SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The Central Government has recently approved raising of 35 additional Indian Reserve (1R) battalions during the period 2007-08 to 2009-10, to be sanctioned, as per the internal security situation and requirements, to various States, including those affected by naxalite activities.

In the 9 States, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal where, for dealing with naxalite activities, assistance for the policing and operational needs of security forces is provided under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme of Ministry of Home Affairs, 26 IR battalions have already been sanctioned earlier. These have added to the capabilities of the State police forces in dealing with various law and order problems.

For dealing with naxalite activities, States are being assisted in, and requested for, steps as are important for effective policing, which include filling up of vacancies in State police forces and raising of specialized forces, trained in counter-insurgency and jungle-warfare.

Curbing of parochial and destructive attitude in the country

†676. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that parochial and destructive attitude is increasing rapidly in the country on the basis of region and language;

(b) whether it is also a fact that required effective steps have not been taken till date to curb such destructive attitude and divisive forces; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the contemplation of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) **No, Sir.**

(c) Does not arise.

Floods relief and rehabilitation to Tamil Nadu

677. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total damage to life and property due to floods, district-wise, in Tamil Nadu which have been assessed by the Central Team recently;

(b) the total funds requested by the State Government for relief and rehabilitation of the affected areas and the people;

(c) the total funds which the Centre is likely to release; and

(d) by when the funds are likely to be released for the relief work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATIV. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d)As per the information received from the State Government through their memorandum, based on their preliminary assessment, 211 human lives lost, cattle heads lost, 6539 huts fully and 38369 huts partially have been damage due to

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.